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*Memphis, Tenn.* 1890 — white, 19.33; colored, 26.15; 1891 — white, 20.02; colored, 28.88.

*Charleston, S. C.* 1887 — white, 19.89; colored, 40.44; 1888 — white, 17.82; colored, 42.26; 1889 — white, 18.69; colored, 43.98; 1890 — white, 17.76; colored, 36.09; 1891 — white, 19.22; colored, 37.71.

In the year 1891 the vital statistics for the following cities showed this death rate: Richmond — white, 22.34; colored, 29.50; Savannah — white, 20.75; colored, 38.75; Mobile — white, 17.97; colored, 24.25; Anniston — white, 11.75; colored, 20.50; Birmingham — white, 14.85; colored, 26.34; New Orleans — white, 23.97; colored, 35.01.

Mr. Lunger observes that if insurance companies were forced to give the same rate to colored persons that it would necessarily cause a discrimination against the whites, for the increased losses would result in a general rise in rates all around. It would also affect the reciprocal plan of insurance.

"For instance," he says, "Kentucky has an industrial company, and should it open an office in New Jersey for insurance business the law would be operative as to that company in this state, and, therefore, under the reciprocal legislation of Kentucky the New Jersey law would be enforced against the companies of this state doing business in Kentucky."

At the present time the industrial companies give the colored people 66 $\frac{2}{3}$  per cent of the benefit granted to the whites for the same premium, and it is believed that the business on that basis is not as profitable as their business with white people.

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#### PHYSICAL AND MENTAL CONDITION OF CHILDREN.

*Results of an Inquiry as to the Physical and Mental Condition of Fifty Thousand Children seen in One Hundred and Six Schools.* By Francis Warner, M.D. London. In *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, March, 1893.

A few years ago the British Medical Association and the Charity Organization Society promoted an inquiry, through a joint committee,

for the purpose of collecting information concerning the conditions existing among children. Some results of this inquiry have been published by Mr. Francis Warner in the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, for March, 1893, of which the following is an abstract.

The examination of the different children was made chiefly by inspection of their bodies, and indications of brain action. The signs noted were of two kinds: 1st, Points of form, proportion and size in the body and its parts, such as development of the cranium, palate, ears, mouth, etc. 2nd, Nerve signs, as shown by the balance of the head, spine, mobile features, ears, mouth, etc., together with movements of different parts of the body, such as the arms, fingers, eyes, etc. These were taken as signs of the action and condition of the nerve centers producing them. The inspection was conducted by placing the children in ranks and dismissing all who showed no deviation from the normal in the above respects. Those who were abnormal were then reviewed individually and described on a schedule form. This schedule card was divided into four primary columns. The heading of the first column was "development," "physiognomy," and under this were the sub-headings "cranium," "palate," "ear," "growth," etc. These names were ticked if the parts were found to be normal, and the abnormalities were described. The second column was headed "nerve signs" (movements, postures, etc.), with sub-headings "expression," "general balance," etc. In the third column particulars concerning physical health and nutrition were noted, and the fourth column contained the teachers' report of the working power of each child.

Such schedules were filled in for each of the 9186 children noted as presenting some deviation from the normal type. Of these 5579 were boys and 3607 were girls. The following summary shows the general result of tabulation of these children according to the above headings: —

Defects.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Percentage to Total Boys.	Percentage to Total Girls.	Percentage to Total.
Development defects...	3,616	2,235	5,851	13.4	9.6	11.6
Nerve defects.....	3,413	2,074	5,487	12.6	8.9	10.9
Nutrition defects... ..	1,030	973	2,003	3.8	4.2	4.0
Dullness.....	2,216	1,463	3,679	8.2	6.3	7.3

The children represented in this table may be included under one, or even under all, of the headings; and, again, they may be included in at least 250 sub-classes, according to the combination of conditions present. In this table the smaller proportion of defects among girls is noteworthy. In only one class ("nutrition") is the percentage for girls greater than that for boys. The heading "development" includes the greatest number of children, and many of these cases are included also under the other several headings. The correlations of the four groups is shown by the following table:—

Defects.	Defective Development also Present. (Per Cent.)		Nerve Defects also Present. (Per Cent.)		Nutrition Defects also Present. (Per Cent.)		Dullness also Present. (Per Cent.)	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Development defects.	....	....	54.6	49.0	20.2	32.0	38.3	41.5
Nerve defects.....	57.8	52.8	....	....	18.6	28.8	40.1	42.4
Nutrition defects.....	71.1	74.6	61.6	61.4	....	....	38.1	40.5
Dullness.....	63.0	63.4	61.8	60.1	18.1	27.0	....	...

From this comparison Mr. Warner concludes that "scientific researches of public medicine might well be devoted to the removal of causes of defective development."

Mr. Warner also makes a comparison of the condition of children in regard to social class, nationality, and resident and day schools. He finds that "homes" and "orphanages" present fewer defective cases than do the certified industrial and poor law schools. Ten thousand children in 20 upper class day schools were compared with 26,000 children in 52 day schools of lower social class, with the result that the percentages went against the upper class in all respects.

A comparison of the conditions of children in English, Irish, and Jewish schools yielded some interesting facts. The Irish children appeared to be more defective than were the English. Thirty per cent of the former were noted as abnormal, as against 17 per cent of the latter. The Jewish children were the least defective, only 15 per cent were noted.

Among the "developmental defects" "cranial abnormality" is said to be the most noteworthy. These were divided into three groups, "small heads," "large heads," and "bosses on the cranium."

The last two defects are known to be due to rickets, which is a preventable condition. "Small heads" formed the largest sub-group, and was noticeable as affecting girls more than boys. Also this condition was more common among the poorer classes.

The following facts were demonstrated in regard to cases of "low nutrition":—

1. Girls suffered more than boys.
2. The correlation of low nutrition with development defect was higher for girls than for boys.
3. Low nutrition was less frequent in resident than in day schools.

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#### FREE CHURCH STATISTICS.

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Interesting returns have recently been compiled by Rev. W. C. Winslow, D.D., showing the steady growth of free sittings in churches of the Episcopal denomination.

In 1882, of 119 churches and chapels in the diocese of Massachusetts, 60 had free sittings; today, of 195 churches, chapels, and places of worship, 126 have free sittings; so that instead of about half nearly two-thirds of the churches are free. The total number of sittings in all places of worship of this church in Massachusetts is 52,334, of which 30,166 are free and 22,168 are not free. The disproportion of the number of free churches and free sittings in the total is owing to the fact that some of the largest parishes have pewed churches. Trinity Church, Boston, *e. g.*, having 1600 sittings to 400 in a church that is free, like the Church of our Saviour in Longwood.

In 1879, out of about 3000 Episcopal parishes in the whole country, 45 per cent had free sittings; in 1885, out of 3300 parishes, nearly 70 per cent had free sittings.

In Quincy all churches are free; in Arkansas, Florida, and Springfield all but one; in Maine and Nebraska all but two; in Boston, Indiana, Mississippi, and Missouri all but three are free. The summary is as follows: In 52 dioceses, 1 has all the seats free; 8 have 95 per cent and over free; 13 have 90 per cent; 7 have 85 per cent; 5 have 80 per cent; 7 have 70 per cent; 6 have 60 per cent; 4 have 50 per cent; 1 has  $29\frac{1}{2}$  per cent; 52 averaging  $77\frac{1}{2}$  per cent and over free.